

# JOURNEY TO JUSTICE



**Annual report**  
2014 - 2015



Patrons: Baroness Helena Kennedy QC; Dr Paul Stephenson OBE; Leyla Hussein; Lord Herman Ouseley; Sir Geoffrey Bindman QC OBE

### Chair and director's report October 2014 – September 2015

This has been an extraordinary year. We achieved our main aims of creating a travelling exhibition, successfully piloting it in the North East and trialling our teaching approach in east London. We have developed strong partnerships and generated national interest and are now preparing to roll the exhibition programme out. The task is ambitious but JtoJ strikes a chord, whatever people's concerns, whether poverty, the elderly, unemployment or domestic violence and wherever they are in the UK, so we are very encouraged by the response so far. Our evaluation shows participants connect with the JtoJ combination of learning about the history and arts of human rights. They apply the lessons to working for social justice today and many have found a 'voice' and 'agency' as a result.

There is a huge momentum thanks to the management committee, volunteers and advisers and we are hugely grateful to our funders and patrons. So many people have been part of JtoJ, we have avoided naming individuals for fear of leaving anyone out. There were over 400 names on the Thank You banner at the exhibition in Newcastle. We look forward to another busy, full year to come.

### CONTENTS

<b>PART ONE: ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>Page</b>
Creation of the travelling exhibition	2
Exhibition programme - North East pilot	3
National roll out and taster days	5
JtoJ Live – a pilot of our teaching approach	6
Partnerships	8
Volunteers, in-kind support and advisers	9
<b>PART TWO: BUILDING CAPACITY</b>	
Management Committee	9
Fundraising	10
Team Day - 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2014	11
What next? Plans for 2015-2016	11
<b>APPENDICES</b>	
A. North East Pilot: Project Partners	13
B. Journey to Justice Sheffield, 2016	14



Natalie Twaddle and pupils from Hotspur Primary School & pupils from Christ Church CofE Primary School, Newcastle at the exhibition

## PART ONE: ACTIVITIES

### Creation of the travelling exhibition



A view of our travelling exhibition including the lunch counter and UK stories

Thanks to our talented team of volunteers, generous funders, creative exhibition design company (HKD) and exhibition builders - Keyboard Group - we planned, created and delivered the travelling exhibition ready for its opening on time in Newcastle upon Tyne on April 4<sup>th</sup> 2015 which was the anniversary of Martin Luther King's assassination in 1968.

The team did outstanding work (<http://bit.ly/1HyRaNi>). It included curators, educators, researchers, writers, historical advisers, copyright permission seekers, a-v editors – all volunteers. We produced a guide to the exhibition: <http://bit.ly/1Sytkl2> and there is background information on our website. We intend to create additional open source teaching resources next year. Using feedback from visitors and our volunteers' suggestions, we have been able to agree a list of amendments to improve the exhibition with respect to aspects of its content, activities, accessibility.



U.S. Deputy Marshals escort 6-year-old Ruby Bridges from William Frantz Elementary School, 1960 ©AP/Press Association Images

Our multi-media, interactive travelling exhibition focuses on the US civil rights movement and its links to the UK, including the 1963 Bristol bus boycott, with a specific focus on the crucial role of less well known children, women and men. We tell their stories on a series of 'bus stops': Ruby Bridges and Barbara Henry (New Orleans school desegregation); Bayard Rustin (phenomenal organiser); a Memphis sanitation worker and his wife, Elmore and Peggy Nickleberry (economic justice and racism); A Freedom Summer Voter Registration volunteer, Marcia Saunders; Janice Kesley from the Birmingham Children's Crusade and Jean Stallings (National Welfare Rights Organisation). We also

tell the story of the Greensboro sit-ins at a lunch counter installation where visitors can take part in activities and watch our a-v collection. There is a map of the UK illustrating examples of UK struggles for freedom and rights and we explore the factors which make a human rights movement succeed (or not). A juke-box of freedom songs plays throughout and we emphasise the universal relevance of the US civil rights movement and links to local human rights history wherever the exhibition goes, reflected in a section of the exhibition researched and interpreted by a local team.

For more details, see: <http://journeytojustice.org.uk/projects/journey-to-justice-the-exhibition/>

### Exhibition programme, North East pilot



Marcia Saunders, former US civil rights activist and Spencer, a pupil at Kingsmeadow Community School, open the exhibition

We chose Tyneside as the place to pilot our exhibition programme because: Newcastle was the only UK University to award Dr Martin Luther King an honorary degree in his lifetime; the area has a proud history of struggles for human rights and we were invited by Professor Brian Ward, Head of American Studies at Northumbria University who organised a conference about Selma in April 2015. Northumbria and Newcastle Universities were two of our most significant and generous partners.

Carrie travelled to Newcastle regularly from May 2014, helping to secure partnerships with scores of organisations (Appendix A) and volunteers, venues, funding and PR, working with our former local co-ordinator, Bethany Elen Coyle for whose tremendous work we are very grateful. We created a local steering group to help plan our programme and we received masses of in-kind support from across the region in addition to grants and local fundraising efforts. The pilot cost c. £30,000 to run.

Another vital partner was Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums who hosted our exhibition at Discovery Museum, a popular, free, city centre venue and we were thrilled that 3,300 visitors were attracted over the month. We held a very well-attended launch (350 people) there which was filmed and broadcast by the BBC. We featured local grassroots groups and performers – young people, refugees, singers, poets, films and politicians. Our keynote speaker was Archie Sibeko an international human rights campaigner and former cellmate of Nelson Mandela.



Benny Graham and Johnny Handle, Journey to Justice launch, Newcastle upon Tyne

It was the start of an extraordinary month of events in Newcastle and Gateshead, including courses, films, walks, talks, music and art – all focused on the Journey to Justice combination of human rights history, the arts of social protest and understanding social change. With Curiosity Creative and a Heritage Lottery Fund grant, we trained young people in the skills of oral history. They interviewed five people from Tyneside who are active in supporting refugees, asylum seekers and Roma and two of whom met Martin Luther King at Newcastle University in 1967. Their stories were a key part of our exhibition and you can hear their interviews via our website: <http://bit.ly/1GHINCM>

With Movement for Change (MFC) we ran courses for young people in Benwell as part of their Poverty Ends Now campaign. And MFC and Facing History and Ourselves worked with adults who support young people, on teaching about the civil rights movement, community organising and the skills of campaigning (strategy, planning, negotiation, understanding power). We evaluated participants' and visitors' feedback with the help of a professional external evaluator Nicola Bell. Naturally this wide range of activity meant that we learned invaluable lessons for our future activity.



Meredyth Bell (left) and fellow students with Martin Luther King Jr, Newcastle University, Nov. 1967, photograph thanks to Paul Barry

## Impact

80% of respondents to our questionnaires said the exhibition increased their knowledge and understanding of the US civil rights movement and the UK's history of struggles for freedom. 60% of programme participants said involvement with JtoJ had inspired them to take action for social justice and we had positive feedback from 20% of those people four months after they saw the exhibition.

Some assessments by participants: 'The training was relevant, useful and effective – we now have a strategy.' (Children North East). 'The most successful thing about Journey to Justice has been my personal growth. I am 24 and I have learned more about social justice than I ever knew before. I found out how the miners' strike affected my grandparents' jobs and it has inspired me to speak up for social justice...' (participant from Space 2, a Newcastle youth project)



Theresa Easton, printmaker, with Walter Cutabiala of Space 2 project, interview for our Tyneside oral history project

Please see an article in the *Newcastle Journal* about Journey to Justice: <http://bit.ly/1L2DOZL>

Details of our North East programme: Footsteps to Freedom in the North East:  
[www.journeytojustice.org.uk/projects/footsteps-to-freedom](http://www.journeytojustice.org.uk/projects/footsteps-to-freedom)

And a short film about the exhibition and music workshops, by Hugh Kelly of Swingbridge Media:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OyRtbEh4cWU>



Bethany Elen Coyle, music of social justice workshop with staff and students from Hotspur Primary School

### **National roll out and taster days**

We are delighted by the response to and interest in our exhibition programme from a range of venues in cities and rural areas across the UK: museums, arts centres, schools, youth, community and faith centres, libraries, Further Education Colleges and universities. Potential partners visited the exhibition while it was in Newcastle and we are now in discussion with them about taking it to their communities. The most effective means of communication has been word of mouth and we have promoted the project via TEG (Touring Exhibitions Group) and the Museums Association.

We have commitment from partners in Sheffield (led by our Chair Mark Hutchinson, Appendix B), Leicester; Sunderland and Tower Hamlets for 2016 and from Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dundee for 2017. And we are in the early stages of positive discussion with organisations in Brighton, Preston, Nottingham Galleries of Justice and Centre for Research in Race and Rights, Nottingham University, Manchester, Northern Ireland, Bristol, Middlesbrough, Slough, Birmingham, Hull, Newport, Devon, Norfolk, Gloucestershire, all of whom want to bring the JtoJ exhibition programme to their communities and are negotiating funding, capacity, venues and dates.



Students at the Remembering Rosa Parks conference, run by the University of Leicester, American Studies Department

Thanks to our North East pilot, we know that ideally it takes a year in order to develop cross community relationships, create a local steering group, identify organisers and ensure a sense of ownership although we are open to alternatives and short term hire. For example we had an enquiry

from Sussex University Students' Union for Freshers' Week and from a youth and community project in Cumbria for their social action week. We are also beginning to think about locations for our activities outside the UK in response to growing tensions, fear and the migration crisis across Europe.

Since our successful pilot in Newcastle, there is a strong Journey to Justice network in the North East and we anticipate similar, vibrant and continuing networks being established in the new locations, interested in sharing ways of achieving social change. However, we are under no illusions about the difficulty of maintaining activity solely with volunteers, no matter how dedicated they are.

We offer '**taster days**' in each interested community when we introduce people in the local community to the aims and work of JtoJ and discuss the possibility of bringing the project to their area. They offer a chance to identify potential venues, audiences, activities, funding sources and a local steering group. In June, we ran a taster day in Manchester hosted by the Ahmed Iqbal Ullah Education Trust and we are planning others in Sunderland and Edinburgh for early 2016.



The barrier – exhibition visitors answer questions such as: Who inspires you? Has a news item ever inspired you to take action for justice?

### **JtoJ Live: a pilot of our teaching approach**



Parul Motin and JtoJ Live students

We began the pilot in January 2015 and it was supposed to be a two month project but ten months on is still going strong. A team of volunteers, led by Parul Motin and Martin Spafford and including Rosaleen Lyons, Faduma Elmi and Carrie Supple taught and supported 20 vulnerable young people including refugees and Roma at George Mitchell School, Leyton, Waltham Forest, east London.

The sessions were delivered during the school day in an informal environment and the vast majority of young people responded extraordinarily well. They: learned about non-violent struggles for human rights; met housing and civil rights activists; studied the music and poetry of social protest and wrote and performed their own poems which were published and are now part of our exhibition. The group attended a preview screening of the film *Selma* and some shared a platform with our patrons Baroness Helena Kennedy and Lord Herman Ouseley and Chi Onwurah MP.

They saw a searing production of *The Scottsboro Boys* and its leading actor, Brandon Victor-Dixon, visited and advised them. They worked with Movement for Change to develop their own campaign and made presentations at the House of Lords as part of a celebration evening hosted by Lord Herman Ouseley and Lord Jeremy Beecham.

The group chose a name for their campaign - JtoJ Live – and the issue they decided to focus on is how to ensure young people’s opinions are heard in the decision-making process of school exclusions. The students made their case to Head teacher Saeed Hussain who was very interested in the idea of a student advisory panel on exclusions. Negotiations continue and the group will have the opportunity to put their case to school governors. They have been awarded ASDAN (Award Scheme Development and Accreditation Network) qualifications and many have chosen to build on their achievements by training their peers in Tower Hamlets where the exhibition will open in 2016. They will work towards ASDAN accreditation in volunteering.



Alexandra Letu reads her poem *Dried Flowers* at the House of Lords, Adam Jabran is on the left

Our evaluation shows that participants developed a deeper understanding of key concepts such as social justice, human rights and social change and, most vitally, of their own ability and right to have a ‘voice’. In their words: ‘Our voice is the next generation, there are people too scared to say what they think and we have to be role models.’ ‘I found the confidence to make a change and speak out. I learned a lot about who changed history and that there are different ways to fight back without using violence.’ For more on JtoJ Live and this school-based project: <http://bit.ly/1jPqrGQ>  
A 12 minute film made by Winstan Whitter about the group can be seen at: <https://vimeo.com/127012579>



## Partnerships



JtoJ volunteer Rosaleen Lyons (R) with National Citizen Service group, Tottenham

JtoJ is a partner organisation with group and individual members. We collaborate with those whose aims and values complement ours and have enjoyed working closely with a range of people to help realise our local work. Nationally, partners include Exposure Youth Media who made a film for us and helped promote our work and the Black Cultural Archives whose rooms and facilities we enjoy in-kind. Movement For Change and Facing History and Ourselves helped deliver our training and we are in discussion with a range of people e.g. the English Media Centre about future possible work.

In summer 2015 we were invited to work in Tottenham at Northumberland Park Community School and with the National Citizen Service - The Challenge. All three run participation, social action and volunteering programmes. We introduced young people to our work with activities and asked them to identify issues they care about most. Their concerns include: equal education for girls world-wide; discrimination; homelessness; the need for peace and respect; more family time. Group work focused on helping to plan our London exhibition opening in 2016 with particular reference to: fundraising; PR and communications and performers for the exhibition launch and programme.

We were heartened by the students' enthusiastic, thoughtful and invaluable contributions and many signed up to volunteer with us. They said: 'I thought it would be boring but I really enjoyed the class. I learned things and understand that it's in my hands and the hands of all people to make a difference. We just need to join together.', 'Everyone got involved and it was a fun experience.'



Students feedback during a JtoJ session at Northumberland Park Community School

## Volunteers, in-kind support and advisers



JtoJ volunteers Imani Robinson, Rebecca Polden-Churchill and Tasnim Kapasi

Journey to Justice is a volunteer-led alliance of educators, students, artists, film-makers, lawyers, musicians, historians, archivists, curators, trade unionists, politicians, youth and community groups, human rights and faith organizations. Our over 80 high calibre, committed volunteers and advisers bring a wealth of experience and skills including social media, strategy and event planning. We have a steady flow of applicants who hear about us through word of mouth and volunteering websites.

Many people have advised and continue to advise us with their expertise and some of those who we have happily been able to pay give additional hours in-kind because of their support for JtoJ. A vast amount of time has been devoted to JtoJ by other volunteers. Our thanks and gratitude go to all.

## PART TWO: BUILDING CAPACITY

### Management committee



**Top left then clockwise:** Pat Boyer; Janet Browne (Deputy Chair), Dr Madge Dresser, Sheri Lawal, Martin Spafford (Secretary), Carrie Supple (Director, not on the MC), Veena Vasista, Terry McGregor (Treasurer), Will Essilfie. **Centre:** Mark Hutchinson (Chair), Parul Motin

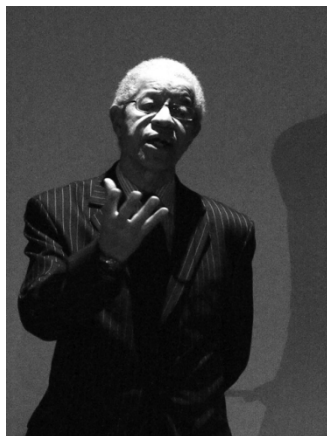
At last year's AGM we created a smaller management committee (MC) of 12 people to replace the founding steering group of 21 members! (<http://journeytojustice.org.uk/managementcommittee>). The team combines decades of working with all ages, education, archives, history, project

management, finance, PR, the arts and social justice. We are in the process of applying for charitable status and continue to benefit from the advice of the Centre for Innovation in Voluntary Action.

The MC met six times. Our work is UK-wide and we would like the MC to reflect that but it is not easy – time wise and financially - to achieve yet. We are delighted when members from outside London can attend or participate (Veena contributes by Skype and email from New Mexico) and we aim to hold occasional meetings and AGMs in various parts of the country in the near future.

Our agendas are always over-loaded because there are so many exciting activities and we are new and developing and because the MC serves as Board, staff team and sub-committees at the moment. Meetings are lively and productive and members are welcome to attend as observers. We have ad hoc sub groups for a range of our priorities such as: fundraising; the exhibition and education programme; PR and events and intend them to be more formally constituted and frequent. Mark Galloway resigned from the MC in September so he could devote time to other projects. We are very grateful for all his work with helping Journey to Justice launch in 2014.

### Fundraising



(L) Lord Herman Ouseley, speaking at the London JtoJ preview of *Selma*; (R) *Selma* preview in Sheffield: Alison Johnson and her father Bruce Leng who was at the 1963 March for Freedom and Jobs in Washington DC. Mark Hutchinson, JtoJ Chair, is on the right

We raised £62,000 in the last financial year. Income came from a mixture of sources: Awards For All, Heritage Lottery Fund, Sigrid Rausing Trust, By Box, Royal Society of Arts, Lipman-Miliband Trust, Land Securities, Golsoncott Foundation, Newcastle University, Trusthouse Charitable Foundation and Barbour Foundation, our crowdfunding and events and supporters' fundraising and donations.

Thanks to our acclaimed website – designed and managed by Vanishing Point Creative we are regularly approached by volunteers and representatives of organisations who have given us high profile support including Pathé Films. They asked JtoJ to help market their film *Selma* and in return gave us free previews of it – in London, Newcastle and Sheffield which we used as fundraisers.

Nearly half our funds paid for the exhibition and the other half for our Newcastle and Leyton pilots, projects, publicity, evaluation and a contribution to the director's salary.

We have no office and few overheads. Our HQ is Carrie's flat and we meet in cafes and at partners' offices and the Royal Festival Hall along with many other organisations. However, our funds are now in urgent need of replenishment! We intend to continue with a mixed fund-raising strategy, paying

greater attention to European Union funding opportunities and to corporations with explicit ethical policies. We have been invited to be part of the New Spring Fund which would give us access to donors in the USA. We apply for local funding for the running of our exhibition programme in each potential target venue, taking advice from our partners. Of course, these are difficult times for everyone in our sector and we welcome the help we receive from umbrella voluntary organisations despite cuts to their services. We are eternally grateful for all the financial support we receive.

### **Team Day, 25th October 2014**

Thirty five of JtoJ's volunteers, advisers, supporters and steering group members spent a most stimulating day together in the new Black Cultural Archives Learning Room. We explored the meaning of social justice, shared our own journeys to justice and were taken through a lesson in the importance of critical thinking as our Secretary Martin Spafford unpacked the true story behind this notorious photo from the Children's Crusade, 1963 in Birmingham, Alabama: <http://bit.ly/1Qmr5Z5>

Our then North East co-ordinator, Bethany Elen Coyle sang Joan Baez's tragic *Birmingham Sunday* and led us all in Sweet Honey in the Rock's *Ella's Song* about Ella Baker, one of the many unsung heroes and heroines of the US civil rights movement.

We held our first AGM that afternoon, agreeing a vision and policies and a revised constitution ready for our application to become a charity. We heard updates about our first year and plans for the exhibition and pilots and elected a new management committee. It was a milestone for the team.

One participant wrote: 'Most memorable was the wonderful, inspiring cross-section of people - all supporting JtoJ in different and important ways. I learnt more about the tactics and reporting of the US civil rights movement and how much more complex the struggle was..... in contrast to the traditional description of events and personalities.'



Team day activity at the Black Cultural Archives

### **What next? Plans for 2015 – 2016**

In addition to realising the partnerships and exhibition programmes outlined above, we plan to:

- Secure charitable status
- Develop our strategic and business plan
- Fundraise and plan for sustainability
- Appoint 1-2 paid core staff and local co-ordinators
- Make the agreed changes to our exhibition
- Develop a PR and marketing strategy
- Boost our social media and website profile including Volunteers' Stories

- Create a toolkit of open source learning resources
- Increase our activities with target audiences including families
- Continue to recruit new members and volunteers
- Run events starting with our January 18<sup>th</sup> MLK Day evening at the Museum of Childhood and a workshop on February 15<sup>th</sup> with Professor Marmot at Bethnal Green Academy
- Begin to discuss new projects. e.g. a focus on gender-based violence, suggested by our patron, Leyla Hussein, co-founder of Daughters of Eve.

[www.journeytojustice.org.uk](http://www.journeytojustice.org.uk) Twitter @freedomandjobs E: [info@journeytojustice.org.uk](mailto:info@journeytojustice.org.uk)

Donations welcome: <https://www.justgiving.com/JtoJ> **Once again, thank you everyone**

**Carrie Supple, director and Mark Hutchinson, chair, November 2015**



The National Welfare Rights Organization marching to end hunger as part of the Poor People's Campaign, 1968. Jack Rottier photograph collection, Collection #C0003, Special Collections and Archives, George Mason University Libraries.



Launch of Footsteps to Freedom in the North East, our exhibition programme pilot, Great Hall, Discovery Museum

## Appendix A

### North East Pilot: Project Partners

A Living Tradition  
Angelou Centre  
Bar Loco  
Bridge and Tunnels Production  
Centre for Applied Human Rights, York University  
Children North East  
Christchurch Primary School  
Church Action on Poverty  
Citizens Advice Bureau  
City of Sanctuary  
CoMusica Arches Sage Gateshead  
Corbridge Middle School  
Curiosity Creative  
Curious Monkey  
Discovery Museum  
Facing History and Ourselves  
Good Cause TV  
Great North Museum  
Heritage Lottery Fund  
Hotspur Primary School  
Kingsmeadow Community Choir  
Ladies of the Midnight Blue  
Movement for Change  
NESS Collective (North East Socialist Singers)  
Newcastle Civic Centre  
Newcastle College  
Newcastle Council for Voluntary Service  
Newcastle University  
Newcastle Volunteer Centre  
North of England Institute of Mining and Mechanical Engineers  
Northern Stage  
Northern TUC  
Northumbria University  
Regional Refugee Forum North East  
RSA  
Sanctuary Artspace  
Scrumpy Willow and the Singing Kettle  
Settle Down Café  
Show Racism the Red Card  
Space 2  
Swingbridge Media  
The Black Portraits  
The Crossings Project  
The Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle  
TWAM  
UNISON  
West End Refugee Service

## APPENDIX B

### Journey to Justice in Sheffield, summer 2016

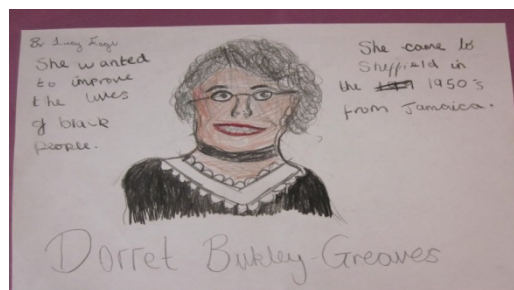
From an initial meeting in June 2014, the Sheffield Advisory and Planning Group (SAPG) now meets on a regular basis. It includes a broad spectrum of members from the university, community activists, arts organisations including Eclipse Theatre, trade unionists and human rights groups, all with experience of fundraising and project management. We have a wider group of supporters who will be involved as we get closer to the summer of 2016. SAPG was established with three aims:

- To display the JtoJ exhibition in the Art House, Sheffield from May 28<sup>th</sup> to June 25<sup>th</sup> 2016
- Organise a programme of events and activities to complement the exhibition
- Establish a legacy for this initial work as a foundation for the city to further promote dialogue and participation in social justice.



The Art House, St. Matthew's Church, Carver Street

The existing exhibition will be complemented by Sheffield's story of the struggle for racial justice under the title 'Sheffield's Voices for Equality'. This local dimension will be set out in three formats – a historical timeline, a visual map of Sheffield's pioneers of, and protestors for racial equality and finally through the display of artefacts that capture the essence of the city's promotion of social justice. The team will plan related educational activities – visits, workshops and performances, talks, films and multi-media performances at the Art House and elsewhere in the city. We plan to run the daily programme of events in partnership with students from Sheffield Hallam University (SHU)



Student-produced work about Dorrel Bukley Greaves, a Sheffield voice for equality

We hope to see you all in Sheffield in summer 2016!

**Mark Hutchinson, Sheffield Co-ordinator and national Chair of Journey to Justice**